

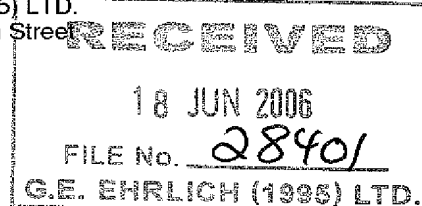
From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

JS

PCTNOTIFICATION CONCERNING
TRANSMITTAL OF COPY OF INTERNATIONAL
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY)

(PCT Rule 44bis.1(c))

To:

G.E. EHRLICH (1995) LTD.
11 Menachem Begin Street
52 521 Ramat Gan
ISRAËL

Date of mailing (<i>day/month/year</i>) 01 June 2006 (01.06.2006)		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 28401		IMPORTANT NOTICE
International application No. PCT/IL2004/001059	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2004 (17.11.2004)	
		Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2003 (17.11.2003)
Applicant PROLAPSE INC. et al		

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Simin Baharlou

Facsimile No.+41 22 740 14 35

Facsimile No.+41 22 338 71 30

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44*bis*)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 28401	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/IL2004/001059	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2004 (17.11.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 November 2003 (17.11.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant PROLAPSE INC.		

1.	This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 <i>bis</i> .1(a).																								
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.																								
In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.																									
3.	<p>This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 40%;">Box No. I</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention																							
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application																							
4.	The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44 <i>bis</i> .3(c) and 93 <i>bis</i> .1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44 <i>bis</i> .2).																								

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Date of issuance of this report 22 May 2006 (22.05.2006)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Authorized officer Simin Baharlou</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Telephone No. +41 22 338 71 30</td> </tr> </table>	Date of issuance of this report 22 May 2006 (22.05.2006)	Authorized officer Simin Baharlou	Telephone No. +41 22 338 71 30
Date of issuance of this report 22 May 2006 (22.05.2006)				
Authorized officer Simin Baharlou				
Telephone No. +41 22 338 71 30				
Facsimile No. +41 22 740 14 35				

REC'D 27 JUL 2005

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

WIPO

PCT

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
AGENT
G.E. EHRLICH (1995) LTD.
11 MENACHEM BEGIN STREET
RAMAT GAN, ISRAEL 52 521

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 25 JUL 2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

28401

International application No.

International filing date (day/month/year)

Priority date (day/month/year)

PCT/IL04/01059

17 November 2004 (17.11.2004)

17 November 2003 (17.11.2003)

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

IPC(7): A61F 2/02 and US Cl.: 600/030

Applicant

PROLAPSE INC.

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Samuel G. Gilbert

Telephone No. 866-217-9197

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/IL04/01059

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IL04/01059

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43 bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>6, 10, 18, 22, 31, 36, 39-48</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-30, 32-35, 37, 38</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>6, 10, 18, 22, 31, 36, 39-48</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-30, 32-35, 37, 38</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-48</u>	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-30, 32-35, 37, and 38 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Popper(2,391,343).

Applicant's attention is invited to Figures 1-4. The examiner is taking arms -12- and -13- to be frames and membranes -11- as a pair of flexible sheets. The frame is flexible as shown in figure 4. The device is capable of performing the recited function in the applicant's claims.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-30, 32-35, 37, and 38 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Eberbach(5,366,460). Applicant's attention is invited to figures 48-56 and the corresponding written description. The device is capable of performing the recited function in the applicant's claims.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-30, 32-35, 37, and 38 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Corcoran et al.(2002/0068950).

The applicant's attention is invited to figures 1, 2, and 7 and the corresponding written description. The device is capable of performing the recited function in the applicant's claims.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-17, 19-21, 23-30, 32-35, 37, and 38 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Gainor (WO 01/17435). See the closure device. The device includes metal frame members and fabric sheets. The device is capable of performing the recited function in the applicant's claims.

Claims 6, 10, 18, 22, 31, 36, 36, and 39-48 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(2)-(3), because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a method of treating prolapse of a pelvic organ including inserting a device as claimed through the vagina and inserting the device between the organ and the vagina.

Further, biodegradable frame members are not taught along with the particular structure to expand the device as claimed.

Claims 1-48 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus meet industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.